

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

At page 1, lines 25-28, please replace the beginning of that paragraph with the following:

Particular embodiments of the invention may include one or more of the following features. In particular embodiments, the span between cutting edges is between 0.95 mm and 1.15 mm, preferably between 1.0 mm and 1.1 mm, most preferably about 1.05 mm. The exposure of blades between the first blade and said the last blade is

At page 2, lines 6-9, replace that paragraph with the following:

Embodiments of the invention may include one or more of the following advantages. Shaving razor blade units provide good force distribution over many blades and improved shaving performance without increasing the area taken up by the blade units ~~to too much large an extent~~ while retaining rinse-through capability.

At page 2, please add the following paragraphs into the “Brief Description of the Drawings” section to briefly describe added Figure 8, at page 2 immediately after line 21 and before the caption introducing the “Detailed Description”:

Fig. 8 illustrates a representative blade tangent angle β and imaginary planes to illustrate exposure of a primary blade and a last blade.

At page 3, lines 1-19, replace that paragraph with the following:

Referring to Figs. 3-6, it is seen that each elongated blade 28 is supported on a respective elongated bent support 400 having an elongated lower base portion 402, an elongated bent portion 404 and an elongated platform portion 406 on which the blade 28 is supported. The blade span is defined as the distance from the blade edge to the skin contacting element immediately in front of that edge as measured along a tangent line extending between the element and the blade edge. The cutting edges 406 408 of each blade are separated from cutting edges 408 of adjacent blades by the inter-blade span distance $S_2 = S_3 = S_4 = S_5$; the inter-blade span is between 0.95 mm and 1.15 mm, preferably between 1.0 mm and 1.1 mm and most preferably about 1.05 mm. The blade exposure is defined to be the perpendicular distance or height of the blade edge measured with respect to a plane tangential to the skin contacting surfaces of the blade unit elements next in front of and next behind the edge. Because the cutting edges all rest against clips 32 when at rest, they are in a common plane, such that the exposures of the three intermediate blades are zero. The front blade 28 has a negative exposure of -0.04 mm, and the last blade 28 has a positive exposure. The decreased exposure on the first blade and increased exposure on the last blade provides for improved shaving performance as described in U.S. Patent No. 6,212,777. The span S_1 from the front rail 409 to the cutting edge of the front blade 28 is 0.65 mm, and the distance S_C from the cutting edge of the last blade 28 to the tangent point on lubricating strip 26 of cap 24 is 3.16 mm.

At page 4, lines 6-14, replace that paragraph with the following:

Referring to Figs. 4-7, blade 28 is connected to platform portion 406 by thirteen spot welds 410 applied by a laser that melts the metal of blade 28 at the weld area WA to create molten metal, which forms the weld 410 to platform portion 406 upon cooling. The weld area WA is an area of attachment at which the blade is secured to the platform portion. The weld area WA is located within a flat portion FP of platform portion 406. The blade length LB from cutting edge 408 to blade end 450 is less than 1mm, preferably less than 0.9 mm, and most preferably about 0.85 mm. Blade 28 has a uniform thickness portion 412 that is supported on platform portion 406 and a tapered portion 412 414 that extends beyond the front end 452 of platform portion 406.